

Appln. No. 10/758,555
Amendment

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1. (currently amended): A system for transferring loaded containers between a delivery vehicle and a dockside located sea vessel by use of a [marine terminal] crane having a spreader bar suspended therefrom, comprising: a mobile loader including a fixedly attached motorized cab for propell[ed]ing the mobile loader to a load transfer dockside location underlying the crane; a platform in the loader having guide rails, the platform for carrying [with one of the] at least one of the containers [being carried thereon] between [which] the guide rails; motorized means mounted on the platform [for] to move[ment of] the guide rails into [enclose] engagement with the at least one container [while] and to position[ing] the spreader bar of the crane into alignment with the at least one container; and hoist means for the transfer of the at least one container between the platform and the delivery vehicle positioned within the loader.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The system as defined in claim 1, further including: lift means connected to the platform for elevation thereof to decrease required descent of the spreader bar from the crane toward the at least one container carried on the platform [; and rail means on the platform for guiding placement of the container thereon or acquisition of the container therefrom by the spreader bar].

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Claim 3 (currently amended): The system as defined in claim 2, wherein said loader comprises: a wheeled frame having a first pair of vertical posts and a second pair of vertical posts, the loader having an elongated bottom support with the lift means disposed in underlying relation to the platform, the platform adjacent the first pair of vertical posts, and a delivery vehicle receiving opening adjacent the second pair of vertical posts, the apparatus further including [:] sensor grid means operatively connected to the motorized means and the hoist means for controlling said movement of the at least one container in accordance with variations in location and size thereof on the delivery vehicle and the platform, the sensor grid means positioned between the second pair of vertical posts, adjacent the delivery vehicle opening.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (new): The system as defined in claim 1, wherein the guide rails have flair shaped ends for redirecting the spreader bar.